

JOHN WEBBER  
85-5

# THREE OWL SONGS

*for Soprano and Piano*

I  
from *THE OWL AND THE NIGHTINGALE*  
anonymous 12th century

II  
from *THE OWL CRITIC*  
James Thomas Fields (1816-1881)

III  
*THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCAT*  
Edward Lear (1812-1888)

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# THREE OWL SONGS

*for Soprano and Piano*

I

from *THE OWL AND THE NIGHTINGALE*

anonymous 12th century

The musical score consists of three staves of music for soprano and piano. The top staff is for the soprano, the bottom staff is for the piano, and the middle staff is a basso continuo staff. The music is in common time, with various key signatures (G major, A major, D major, E major, F# minor, G major) indicated by sharps and flats. The soprano part features several melodic lines, some with grace notes and slurs. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords and bass lines. The basso continuo staff follows the piano's bass line. The score is divided into three systems, each starting with a measure number (1, 4, 7) and containing lyrics in English.

1  
Cun - ning I have and and al - so art

4  
and there - fore I am bold of heart. Both wit and song - craft -

7  
I pos - sess to them a - lone I owe suc - cess.

11

I owe suc - cess      I owe suc - cess      I owe      suc - cess

16

Cun - ning I have      and al - so

21

art      and there - fore I      am bold of heart.

26

Both wit and song-craft I pos-sess

30

to them a lone I owe suc-cess.

3

Cun-ning I have and al - so art

3

39

and there-fore I am bold of heart.

42

Both wit and song - craft I pos-sess to them a - lone I owe suc-

46

cess. I owe suc - cess I owe suc - cess

51

suc - cess      suc - cess      suc - cess.

II  
from *THE OWL CRITIC*  
James Thomas Fields (1816-1881)

Just then with a wink

6

and a sly nor-mal lurch      The Owl ve-ry grave-ly      got

11

down from his perch walked a - round

15

and re - gar - ded his fault find - ing cri - tic (Who

20

thought he was stuffed) with a glance a - na - ly - tic.

III  
*THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCAT*  
Edward Lear (1812-1888)

The musical score consists of three systems of music. The top system starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a time signature of 6/8. The lyrics for this section are: "The Owl and the Pus-sy cat went to sea in a". The middle system continues with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics for this section are: "beau - ti - ful pea - green boat, they took some mo - ney and". The bottom system begins at measure 8 with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a time signature of 6/8. The lyrics for this section are: "plen - ty of mo - ney wrapped up in a five - pound note. The". The music features two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff, with a brace connecting them.

11

Owl looked up to the moon a - bove and sang to a small gui -

14

tar, "O love - ly Pus - sy! O Pus - sy my love, what a

17

beau - ti - ful Pus - sy you are you are what a beau - ti - ful Pus - sy

20

you are you are!"

Pus - sy said to the Owl

24

you el - e - gant fowl!

How charm - ing - ly sweet you sing!

O

28

let us be mar - ried to long we have tar - ried: but what shall we do for a

31

ring?  
They sailed a - way for a year and a day to the

34

land where the Bong - tree grows.  
And there in a wood a Pig - gy - wig stood with a

38

ring on the end of his nose, his nose, his nose!  
With a ring on the

41

end of his nose.

45

"Dear Pig, are you wil - ling to sell for one shil - ling your

48

ring" said the Pig - gy "I will." So they took it a - way and were

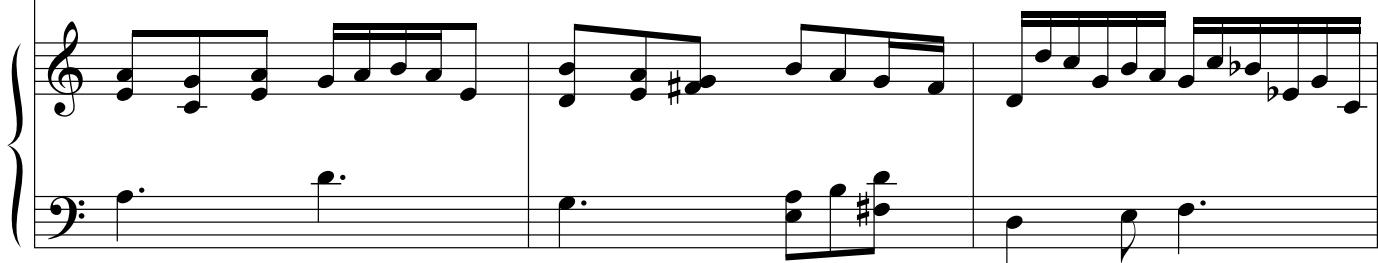
12

51



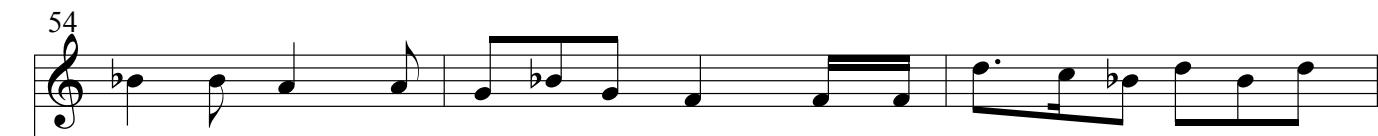
A musical score for two voices. The top voice (soprano) has a steady eighth-note pattern. The bottom voice (bass) enters with a sixteenth-note figure. The lyrics describe a wedding.

mar - ried next day by the Tur - key who lived on the hill. They



The bass line continues with eighth-note patterns. The music concludes with a final cadence.

54



A musical score for two voices. The soprano has a steady eighth-note pattern. The bass line begins with a sixteenth-note figure. The lyrics describe a meal.

dined on mince and slic - es of quince, which they ate with a run - ci - ble



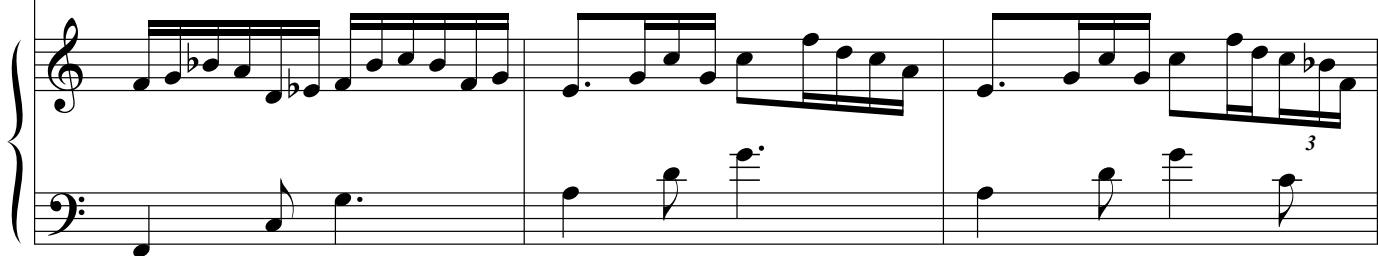
The bass line continues with eighth-note patterns. The music concludes with a final cadence.

57



A musical score for two voices. The soprano has a steady eighth-note pattern. The bass line begins with a sixteenth-note figure. The lyrics describe a scene at the beach.

spoon; and hand in hand, on the edge of the sand they



The bass line continues with eighth-note patterns. The music concludes with a final cadence.

60

A musical score for two voices. The top voice (soprano) has a treble clef and the bottom voice (bass) has a bass clef. The key signature is one flat. The music consists of eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The lyrics are: "danced by the light of the moon, the moon, the moon. They".

danced by the light of the moon, the moon, the moon. They

The continuation of the musical score. The top voice continues with eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The lyrics are: "danced by the light of the moon they danced by the light of the".

danced by the light of the moon they danced by the light of the

The continuation of the musical score. The top voice continues with eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The lyrics are: "moon they danced by the light of the moon".

moon they danced by the light of the moon.

The continuation of the musical score. The top voice continues with eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The lyrics are: "moon they danced by the light of the moon".

70

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff, in treble clef, contains four measures, each ending with a vertical bar line. The first measure has a single rest. The second measure has a rest followed by a sixteenth note. The third measure has a rest followed by a eighth note. The fourth measure has a rest followed by a sixteenth note. The bottom staff, in bass clef, also contains four measures. The first measure has a bass note followed by three eighth notes. The second measure has a bass note followed by three eighth notes. The third measure has a bass note followed by three eighth notes. The fourth measure has a bass note followed by three eighth notes.

I

Cunning I have and and also art  
and therefore I am bold of heart.  
Both wit and songcraft I possess  
to them alone I owe success.  
I owe success I owe success  
I owe success.

from *THE OWL AND THE NIGHTINGALE*  
anonymous 12th century

II

Just then with a wink and a sly normal lurch  
The Owl very gravely got down from his perch  
walked around and regarded his fault finding critic  
(Who thought he was stuffed) with a glance analytic.

from *THE OWL CRITIC*  
James Thomas Fields (1816-1881)

III

The Owl and the Pussy cat went to sea in a beautiful peagreen boat,  
they took some money and plenty of money wrapped up in a five-pound note.  
The Owl looked up to the moon above and sang to a small guitar,  
"O lovely Pussy! O Pussy my love, what a beautiful Pussy you are  
you are what a beautiful Pussy you are you are!"

Pussy said to the Owl you elegant fowl! How charmingly sweet you sing!  
O let us be married to long we have tarried: but what shall we do for a ring?  
They sailed away for a year and a day to the land where the Bong-tree grows.  
And there in a wood a Piggywig stood with a ring on the end of his nose,  
his nose, his nose! With a ring on the end of his nose.

"Dear Pig, are you willing to sell for one shilling your ring" said the Piggy "I will."  
So they took it away and were married next day by the Turkey who lived on the hill.  
They dined on mince and slices of quince, which they ate with a runcible spoon;  
and hand in hand, on the edge of the sand they danced by the light of the moon, the moon,  
the moon. They danced by the light of the moon.

*THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCAT*  
Edward Lear (1812-1888)